10th August 1955]

Softwood plantations in Malabar

* 2066 *Q.*—SRI M. PALANIYANDI (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any match producers applied for State aid for bringing up softwood plantations in Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have granted their request?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir. The Managing Director, United Timber and Cashew Products, Limited, Tellicherry, applied for subsidy from the State Government for raising softwood plantations in a private forest area near Kuttiadi.

" (*b*) The company was informed that the Government of India were not agreeable to pay subsidy to private parties for raising softwood since they had sanctioned a scheme for raising matchwood plantations departmentally in different States."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know the steps taken by the Government to increase the acreage and also the quality of the wood? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government are extending the plantations in Malabar and in certain other areas."

Government grants to Malabar District Board for medical purposes.

* 2067 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of grant given to the Malabar District Board for medical purposes during the financial year 1954–55;

(*b*) the basis on which it was arrived at;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that this amount is being given as Government contribution to only about six dispensaries and not for others; and

(*d*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Rs. 62,973–9–0.

" (*b*) The grant includes half-grant towards the cost of maintaining the medical institutions opened by the District Board, Malabar, after 9th March 1915, but before 17th April 1928, percentage contribution towards the pay and dearness allowance of Medical Officers employed in specified Local Fund Institutions which are expected to perform Government